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Back-to-School 2004 • Vol VII

Superintendent's Corner

Oak opening delayed

BY DR. ANTHONY BENT SUPERINTENDENT

Who could have predicted this? The school committee and town officials allotted what was to be a very generous time frame in which to complete the renovation of the former high school- two full years! Yet, a fire at the site in May of 2003, a general contractor who withdrew from the project in the winter of 2004, and inadequate work force levels from subcontractors have resulted in a school committee decision to delay the opening of Oak Middle School until September 7, four days after the start of school for all the other schools in Shrewsbury. It is important to note that only the Oak Middle School will be delayed. All other schools in Shrewsbury will open as previously planned time, on August 31st.

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Even on September 7, the school will not be complete: the gymnasium, special subject areas, and, perhaps, the cafeteria will likely not be available to students and staff in the first weeks of school. (We will arrange for satellite food service to be brought to the school.) The new general contractor, Jackson Construction, is the company that built the Floral St. School and their owner has indicated to us that he is planning to complete the project by the end of September.

The many building projects that this town has supported over the years, especially for school construction, have taught us about their unpre-

Opening delayed, see page 2

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Middle school students, tomorrow's leaders

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Oak Middle School to open on September 7th



PHOTO BY BOB CORNACCHIOLI

A sample classroom awaits the opening of Oak Middle School.

School starts Tuesday, August 31st

(exception is Oak Middle School's opening on September 7th)

SCH00L	GRADES	ARRIVAL	DEPARTURE
Shrewsbury High School	9-12	7:25 a.m.	1:50 p.m.
Oak Middle School (Sept. 7th)	7-8	7:45 a.m.	2:20 p.m.
Sherwood Middle School	5-6	7:55 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Coolidge School	1-4	8:45 a.m.	3:00 p.m.
Beal School	1, FDK	9:15 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Floral Street School	1-4	9:15 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Paton School	1-4	9:15 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Spring Street School	1-4	9:15 a.m.	3:30 p.m.
Beal, Beal West	AM K	9:15 a.m.	11:50 a.m.
Beal, Beal West	PM K	12:55 p.m.	3:30 p.m.

Please check the chart above for specific information relating to your child's school. Note that all elementary schools will begin and end fifteen minutes later to provide more time for the additional buses needed for the re-con-

figured middle schools. Breakfast and lunch will be served at all schools on opening day.

Start times, see page 3

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